



徐立之教授
Professor Lap-Chee Tsui

傳承港大精神 跨越百年里程 越洋專訪香港大學校長徐立之

香港大學今年歡慶建校一百周年，「時光隧道」以百萬年為單位，一百年的時間根本微不足道，惟就港大而言，百年來見證香港的繁榮起落，見證近代中國的轉折興衰，而應聘擔任港大校長已逾九年的徐立之博士，正處於這個傳承點，任重而道遠。「紅楓傳奇」今年以「明德格物締傳奇」為選拔的宗旨，而「明德格物」正是港大的校訓，徐校長是香港移民，是華裔加拿大人，是人類基因遺傳學的權威，平生獲獎無數，先後獲加拿大勳章、安大略省勳章、加拿大國會Killam獎，加拿大醫學研究局資深研究員、美國侯活曉士醫學研究所國際學人，以及多所著名大學頒授榮譽博士學位。徐立之同時是英國皇家學會會員、加拿大皇家學會會員、台灣中央研究院院士、美國國家科學院外籍院士、中國科學院外籍院士。他今次成為「紅楓傳奇」人物，為紅楓增添不少光彩。

人類遺傳學權威

徐立之祖籍浙江杭州，1950年於上海出生，三歲時隨父母移居香港，於牛頭角新村庇護十二分校讀完小學後，入讀巴富街官立中學（現名何文田官立中學），畢業後進入香港中文大學新亞書院生物系攻讀，1972年獲理學士學位；1974年獲得中大碩士學位後，徐立之負笈美國匹茲堡大學，於1979年取得生物學博士學位。其後，他在美國田納西州Oak Ridge國家實驗室及加拿大多倫多病童醫院遺傳系從事博士後研究，繼而擔任多倫多病童醫院研究所遺傳系主任及首席遺傳學家，同時為 H.E. Sellers 囊狀纖維症講座教授及多倫多大學大學教授。1989年，他成功斷定導致囊狀纖維症的缺陷基因（英文簡稱CFTR），為人類遺傳學帶來重要突破。

人生的際遇往往是意想不到的。在多倫多病童醫院做研究時，曾有不少大學研究機構找過他，但他都予以婉拒，唯獨港大聘請校長時，他怦然心動。徐校長回憶當年應聘出任港大校長的機緣，雖然移民加拿大多年，但經常返港與生物及醫學界進行交

流，對香港的學術機構與研究並不陌生。他與港大校長遴選委員會主席馮國經先生面談時，雙方都很投契，2002年9月，他終於接替戴義安教授出任香港大學第14任校長。初履新職，他除了處理一般校內事務外，還致力發展港大成為研究遺傳基因的中心。他十分重視與大學各方面成員的溝通，多次出訪與海外校友會面，致力為港大籌募經費，經常就大學有關事宜以個人名義發電郵予師生，廣開言路，被視為是一位親切的校長。在他和其他教職員的努力下，港大逐步走出當年民調風波的陰霾。

接掌港大校長推動改革

徐校長做事態度一向認真，亦經常與不同背景、不同意見的人進行溝通，以求達成共識。「接掌港大後，發現很多應興應革之事，但推動改革永遠是吃力的，例如整頓人力架構和人事管理都不是簡單的事，我唯有逐步推動。」談到籌款方面，徐立之稱：「過去我也曾幫忙籌款，但多半是幫忙講講話而已，到了港大則是要帶隊籌款，但不是像有些人所形容的向人『乞討金錢』」。港大經費大約有20%至30%是靠校方自己籌募的，籌款不光是找上富豪的家門，或相約吃餐飯就能成事的，要想有人樂意捐款，必須要得到廣大社會的認同。他認為，大學必須要有好的計劃，有好的項目，做出成績，自然就會得到社會大眾的認同和支持。

提到當年李嘉誠捐十億港元給港大醫學院引發的命名風波，徐立之校長指出，李先生捐十億元給港大，的確是香港有史以來對一所大學最大的一筆捐贈，社會各界的正面回響亦很大。徐校長表示，西方社會通常都會認同表揚慈善家對大學的捐款，而港大師生多數都明白這個事實，所謂「風波」主要是一小部份人不同意這種做法。他強調：「大學沒有一個價目表，最重要的反而是命名能否有助提升學術成就及貢獻。」徐立之重申港大醫學院不論在研究和教學方面都非常出色，孫中山先生當年亦是在醫學院的前身香港西醫書院畢業的。在李先生捐款後，醫學院的教研資源更為充沛，其國際地位及影響更與日俱增。

接任港大校長已有九年，至於兩任十年的時間是否足夠讓徐立之發揮所長，徐校長謙稱一所大學的工作繁雜，不是一個人做得來的，校內很多同事都出了力。他說，現在的工作比起實

驗室涉及面廣泛，而且複雜得多，挑戰很大。「過去我做科研是專業且專注的事情，而校長要照顧多方面，包括改革學制、提升師資水平、質素保證及與國際接軌、大學軟硬件的增添和汰舊換新等，都需要經濟支持、需要積極籌款，這都是我每日必須面對和思考的問題，每件事都不容易，也讓我從中學到很多。」

強調「教」與「學」同等重要

徐校長說：「今年適逢港大建校百年，香港高等教育由明年開始改為四年制，港大許多老師孜孜不倦參與創新和改革，希望帶出新的學習風氣，所以許多新科目已於今年開設。至於兩任十年的時間夠不夠用，要看學校需要什麼樣的人來領導。」他坦承個人很願意有機會繼續為港大出力。他表示眼前最重要的工作是應付新的四年學制，要增建新的校舍，要改善研究設備，他強調「教」與「學」同樣重要。他感謝副校長和其他老師的配合，改革的成果已逐漸呈現。

香港沿用的高等教育體制和中國內地有很大的不同，他希望推動香港的教育與科研體制盡快與內地接軌。徐校長表示，即使兩地系統不同，但方向必須一致，不應背道而馳。港大畢業生應該成為國家的棟樑。所以他積極鼓勵港大學生到內地接受培訓，甚至由老師帶隊到內地的大學上課，例如建築系的學生到上海學習，經濟及工商管理學院和社會科學學院的學生到大陸各著名大學和社科院交流，多和大陸的社會接觸，了解中國大陸人民的生活層面和做事的規則。

由於時代的進步，今日港大的辦學方針已不同於殖民時代；全球化的結果，學生必須多實習，多領悟，自我提升，才能應付社會的轉變。徐校長指出，九七之前，香港和內地的學生很少來往，但九七之後，兩邊都開放很多，來港大就讀的大陸學生增加十倍之多，曾有學生家長質問「為什麼錄取這麼多內地學生？」事實不然，港大花費在內地學生的資源只佔規定的4%，而人數大約是每年錄取200至300人左右，佔本科生總數的10%。對每年大陸高校學生的總數多達六百餘萬人來說，港大收錄內地生人數比例上非常低，不存在搶大陸頂尖學生的問題。但徐校長不否認，他很高興內地績優學生欣賞港大的教育制度。港大所收錄的不單是

本地生、內地生，還有5-10%國際學生和每年九百多名的交換生，國際元素非常明顯，本地生與國際生之間有許多互動的機會。

港大自由風氣吸引內地質優學生

「香港大學之所以吸引內地優質學生，主要是因為港大校風強調開放自由和國際化。」徐校長自豪的說。另外一個原因是港大全部採用英語教學，而其他的大學是雙語的，這是港大的優勢，港大有很多學生交流計劃，學生語文能力強，可能第三年已經交流到外國的學校去了，到英美歐洲都可能，這也是內地學生看中港大的原因之一。在培育學生方面，港大與清華和北大都維持良好的關係，今年北大與港大還合辦了自主招生，港大與上述兩所大學還經常交流師生的學習和培訓。中國大陸將著名高校的傑出研究領域列為「國家重點實驗室」，港大亦爭取到這項榮譽，港大對於SARS、傳染病、腦認知、合成化學和肝腫瘤方面的研究，已達世界水平，許多香港的科研學者已成為中國國家最高科研機構的成員。

徐校長曾被香港市民三度評為「最佳大學校長」，對於此點，徐立之謙稱沒有什麼標準，就像有些機構將大學排名一樣，他不反對拿來參考，但無需刻意執著，以免被誤導和影響校務的發展。舉例來說，徐立之上任前，港大校務委員會曾定下世界排名前25的發展目標，現在港大被英國《泰晤士報》列為全球排位20多名以內的最佳大學。但徐立之認為：「大學的發展永無止盡，不應量化，我更看重學校為人類和社會作出了哪些實際性貢獻。」

為促成加港學術交流盡心力

港大「挖走」了徐立之，曾有人喻為加拿大「人才流失」，關於此點，徐校長將自己比喻為「橋樑」，為促進加港兩地的高校教育盡點力。他說，目前卑詩大學與港大設有兩校法學院雙學位的培訓項目，港大與美國賓州大學、英國的King's College London、北大和瑞士的大學亦都有學術交流培訓計劃，與多倫多大學的合作也在商議中，加拿大中部幾省的大學都有意與港大進行學術合作與交流，作為加拿大人，他將盡力促成。

早年如果是大學畢業生找工作應該沒什麼困難，尤其是大陸

著名高校的畢業生，但是時代不同了，大學文憑已無法保證一定能找到理想的工作。早年大學生只佔社會1%至2%的比例，屬於「精英族群」，現在滿街都是大學生，還有許多年輕人努力讀書，希望擠進名校的窄門，一旦進了名校，下一步卻迷思了，不知道怎麼走下去。徐校長勸喻年輕人要有思想上的轉變。他同時希望糾正社會各方對於一定要有文憑才能找到工作的偏見。他以香港公務員的架構為例，副學士在政府架構上竟找不到薪酬的定位，這是不合理的。

任滿之後有何打算？徐校長爽朗笑答：「聽天由命」。他坦稱對加拿大還是很嚮往，這些年擔任港大校長非常忙碌，根本沒有機會享受香港的生活，如果退休，會選擇返回加拿大生活，至於重返科研領域的機會則不大，因為從事科研必須專注和持續，這些年來擔任行政工作，中斷科研後很難與別人競爭，但如果研究經費，亦不排除有這種可能。至於有否可能像楊振寧博士這樣到內地繼續教學，徐立之笑稱：「我沒有像物理學家楊振寧教授如此清晰的頭腦，如果去教學，可能會誤人子弟。」

徐校長有個美滿的家庭，太太與他同樣生長於香港，早年在香港教書，後在加拿大的皇家銀行工作。徐立之接任港大校長，徐太太亦返港相伴，書香傳家，長子在安省倫敦市擔任藥劑師，次子在英國已取得體育機械博士學位。

打造國際頂尖學府

去年冬天出版的港大一百周年校刊上，徐立之以校長的身份寫下了以下的一段話：「過去一個世紀，港大不負所託，與香港一起成長，隨著時代蛻變、革新，成為今天的國際頂尖學府。香港大學為中國而立，為世界而立。」

徐立之是香港中文大學畢業的，是留美的生物學博士，是移民加拿大的華裔，在人生的高峰期能受聘為港大的校長，發揮所長，正輝映了港大的傳統：「自由、開放、多元。」



在中大讀書時的徐立之(後排左三)。
Prof Tsui (back row, 3rd left) with his Chinese University of Hong Kong classmates.



徐立之教授在實驗室進行研究工作。
Prof Tsui doing research in his laboratory.



總理溫家寶於2003年訪問香港大學，與學生、教職員及校長徐立之會面。

Premier Wen Jiabao visiting the University of Hong Kong in 2003. He was greeted by Vice-Chancellor Prof Lap-Chee Tsui.



與學生一起歡慶香港大學建校100週年活動。
Celebrating the 100th Anniversary of the University of Hong Kong with the students.



徐立之在醫學系研討會上講話。
Prof Tsui speaking at a Faculty of Medicine seminar.



徐立之博士及夫人出席「梅豔芳四海一心慈善基金會」於1993年在多倫多舉行的籌款晚宴。該活動主要為徐立之博士在多倫多大學的囊腫纖維質病變及遺傳學研究籌募經費。

Professor Lap-Chee Tsui and his wife being greeted at the Anita Mui Charity Gala in Toronto in 1993. The gala was a fundraiser for the University of Toronto's medical research on cystic fibrosis and genetics led by Prof Tsui.



香港大學於2008年第179屆學位頒授典禮上，頒授名譽博士學位予前美國總統克林頓，表揚他在防治愛滋病所作出的貢獻。校長徐立之主持儀式。

Prof Lap-Chee Tsui, president of the University of Hong Kong, conferred an honorary doctorate upon former US President Bill Clinton in 2008 in recognition of his commitment to humanitarian causes and global leadership in HIV/AIDS research and advocacy.



徐立之博士獲獎無數，其中包括加拿大勳章、安大略省勳章及Canada Council's Killam Prize。Prof Tsui received numerous prizes including the Order of Canada, the Order of Ontario and Canada Council's Killam Prize.



港大校長徐立之在學位頒授典禮上講話。
Vice-Chancellor Prof Lap-Chee Tsui speaking at the University of Hong Kong's congregation.



徐立之博士的全家福。
Family Portrait of Prof Lap-Chee Tsui



徐立之博士與學生及同事合攝。
Taken with his colleagues in Aug 2006.



港大校長徐立之出席2011年多倫多亞裔月教育圓桌會議，與其他與會者合攝。
Prof Lap-Chee Tsui with other participants of the Asian Heritage Month education roundtable 2011 in Toronto.

Professor Lap-Chee Tsui

This year, the University of Hong Kong celebrates its Centenary. One hundred years may be insignificant in the history of time, but over this last century, the university has borne witness to the tumultuous changes in Hong Kong and China. Professor Lap-Chee Tsui, who has been the Vice-Chancellor and President of the University of Hong Kong for nine years, stands on the crest of momentous changes as the university celebrates its rich heritage during its Centenary.

This year, the Chinese Canadian Legend Gala has chosen the Chinese motto of the University of Hong Kong: Mingde 明德 ("to manifest virtue") and gewu 格物 ("to investigate things") as the theme for electing its 2011 awardees. Professor Tsui is a Chinese-Canadian and an authority on Genomics. He has received numerous honours and awards over the years, including the Order of Canada (Officer), the Order of Ontario, the Killam Prize of the Canada Council for the Arts, and honorary doctoral degrees from many universities all over the world. Professor Tsui also holds the titles of Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada, Fellow of the Royal Society of London, Fellow of Academia Sinica, Foreign Associate of the National Academy of Sciences (USA), Foreign Member of the Chinese Academy of Sciences, Honorary Fellow of Royal College of Physicians (UK) and Honorary Fellow of the World Innovation Foundation. With all these honours and awards to his name, it is an honour of the Chinese Canadian Legend to have Professor Tsui as one of the award recipients.

Tsui Lap-Chee was born in Shanghai in 1950. His family moved to Hong Kong when he was 3 years old. He received his primary education in a public school located at Ngau Tau Kok Estate and his secondary education at Perth Street Government Middle School (now Homantin Government Middle School). He studied biology at New Asia College of the Chinese University of Hong Kong and was conferred a Bachelor's degree in 1972 and a Master's degree from the university in 1974. He received his PhD degree from the University of Pittsburgh in 1979. After a brief training period at the Oak Ridge National Laboratory, he joined the Department of Genetics at the Hospital for Sick Children.

Professor Tsui was Geneticist-in-Chief and Head of the Genetics and Genomic Biology Program of the Research Institute at the Hospital for Sick Children and co-founder of the Centre for Applied Genomics. Additionally, he was the holder of the H.E. Sellers Chair in Cystic Fibrosis and University Professor at the University of Toronto, and the President of the Human Genome Organization (HUGO), an international organization

of scientists involved in the Human Genome Project, from 2000 to 2002. He received international acclaim in 1989 when he identified the defective gene that causes cystic fibrosis, a major breakthrough in human genetics.

Life often takes unpredictable turns. Professor Tsui says that when he was at the Hospital for Sick Children, he was pursued by many different universities, but he always turned them down. However, when he was approached by the University of Hong Kong, he was tempted to make a change. He feels that he has always had a very serious attitude to work, and communicates well with people of different views and different backgrounds. Professor Tsui remembers that while in Canada, he often had academic exchanges with the medical and scientific researchers in Hong Kong, and he was familiar with the academic environment there. Naturally, he struck a chord with the Chair of the Vice-Chancellor search committee, Dr. Victor Fung, from the University of Hong Kong. In September 2002, he succeeded Professor Ian Davis and became the 14th Vice-Chancellor and President of the university. Aside from his administrative role, he also dedicates much of his time to developing the genomic research centre at the University of Hong Kong. He pays a lot of attention to communication, often reaching out to overseas alumni, and is also involved in many fundraising activities. He opens up communication channels by emailing teachers and students personally, and is perceived as a friendly Vice-Chancellor. Under his leadership and the hard work of his team, the university has moved past the difficult days of the 2000 Polling Incident and has since reached new heights of academic and research excellence.

Professor Tsui says, 'Since I took over as Vice-Chancellor of the university, I found quite a few areas that required changes, but both organizational structures and human resource management are very complex issues, and I had to go step by step.' Talking about fundraising, Tsui says, 'I was involved in fundraising before, but my involvement was limited to just a conversation here and there. At HKU, I have to actually lead the fundraising team, but it is not what people imagine – we do not 'beg' for funds. About 20 to 30% of the operational funds are raised by the university. Fundraising is not just about talking to the wealthy. To find donors willing to give, we have to get acceptance and recognition from the community first.' Professor Tsui feels that the university must have very good plans, a good curriculum and good results before it will get public recognition and support.

Referring to the controversy a few years ago of the naming of the Faculty

of Medicine after Dr. Li Ka Shing for his donation of one billion Hong Kong dollars to the university, Professor Tsui points out that the donation was the biggest in the university's history, and resulted in a very positive reaction from the community. Dr. Li did not ask for anything in return for the donation from his foundation, and it was a university initiative to name the medical school after him in appreciation of his generosity. Professor Tsui says that this kind of recognition for a donor in western universities is very common. Most university teachers and students would understand this, and the controversy was only caused by a few who disagreed with that approach. He stresses that there is no price tag for naming a school. It is not merely money, but the most important thing is that whether the naming of a school has a positive impact on its academic achievements and its contributions to the community. Professor Tsui says that the Faculty of Medicine at the University of Hong Kong is very well known for its research and its teaching, and even Dr. Sun Yat-Sun was a graduate of this school. Dr. Li's donation led to more teaching and research resources for the Faculty of Medicine and its international ranking and influence have continued to rise as a result.

Asked if two terms of five years each as Vice-Chancellor are enough for him to do what he aspires to do, Tsui says the work of a Vice-Chancellor is very complex and it takes many people to work together to succeed. It is more complicated and much more challenging than work in a laboratory. Scientific research is extremely focused, but as a Vice-Chancellor, he has to pay attention to a wide spectrum of issues, such as reforming the curriculum, elevating the level of teaching, quality assurance, collaborating with other international institutions, and computer system upgrading. Whatever the issue is, they all take a lot of resources, and require active fundraising. This is what he must think about and face every day. He feels he has learned a lot through this process.

As the University of Hong Kong celebrates its Centenary, the four-year curriculum is now in place for 2012. University teaching staff have been working tirelessly on the curriculum reforms, hoping to bring in a new student-centered learning experience. Professor Tsui obviously would like to have the opportunity to extend his term, but his most important priority at this time is to implement the four-year curriculum, add more school buildings, and improve research facilities. He stresses that 'teaching' and 'learning' are equally important. He is grateful to the Deputy Vice-Chancellor and all the other staff for bringing the curriculum reforms to fruition.

The higher educational system in Hong Kong is quite different from that of Mainland China. Professor Tsui hopes that through these changes, there will be better integration with the educational system and scientific research institutions in China. He feels that even if the systems are different, they must move in the same direction. Graduates from the University of Hong Kong should become the next generation of leaders, the future pillars of China. Professor Tsui actively encourages his university students to get some training in China, even having professors lead student teams to take classes in China. As an example, architecture students go to Shanghai to study, and business management and social sciences students go to well-known universities across China for academic exchanges. They need to get in touch with Chinese society so that they can understand how people in China live and work.

Today, the university's style of administration is very different from the colonial days of the past. With globalization, students need to have opportunities for internship in a real-life environment, in order to adapt to the constant changes in today's world. Professor Tsui points out that before 1997, there was very little academic exchange between Mainland China and Hong Kong. But after 1997, both China and Hong Kong have opened up their academic gates. Students from the Mainland studying at the University of Hong Kong have increased tenfold since then.

'We have been questioned by parents as to why we take in so many students from Mainland China. In truth, the university only allocates a regulated 4% of resources to students from China, accepting about 200 to 300 students each year, less than 10% of local students, a very low ratio when one considers that there are over six million high school graduates in China each year. So the problem of skimming the cream off the top of the students from China does not really exist.' But Professor Tsui does not deny that he is happy that many students from China like the educational system at HKU. However, the university admits not only local students and students from China, but about 5 to 10% of its students are also international students, with another 900 exchange students enrolling each year. This student mix is beneficial to both local and foreign students.

'The University of Hong Kong is particularly attractive to the top students from China in that the university has a tradition in liberal thinking and also because of its international outreach', Professor Tsui says proudly. 'Additionally, all subjects are taught only in English, while other universities teach in both languages. This is an advantage the University of Hong Kong has over other institutions, as the language competency

of the students is very strong, making academic exchanges much easier. It is possible that by the third year of university, a student can go on academic exchange to a foreign university in England, the United States or Europe.' HKU has also developed very good relationships with Tsing Hua University and Beijing University.

The University of Hong Kong has four 'State Key Laboratories' – an honour granted to only the top universities in China – which conducts leading-edge research in SARS, contagious diseases, brain diseases, chemical synthesis and liver cancer. Many scientific researchers at the university are also staff at the top scientific research organizations in China.

Although Professor Tsui was voted 'the best university Vice-Chancellor' three times, he says he did not want to put much store by this. As with university rankings, there are no judging standards and while one can use it as a reference, one does not want to rely on it, as it might be misleading. Before Professor Tsui took up the post, the University's Council set a goal to be among the top 25 universities in the world. Currently, the British newspaper, the Times Higher Education (THE), lists the University of Hong Kong as the 21st top university in the world. Despite achieving this goal, Professor Tsui says that the development of a university is never finished, and one cannot quantify success by rankings. He feels the university's contributions to humanity and to society are far more important than any rankings.

The recruitment of Professor Tsui to the University of Hong Kong has been a brain drain from Canada. Professor Tsui says he is like a bridge, promoting academic exchanges between the two countries. Currently the University of British Columbia and the University of Hong Kong have a double law degree program. The University of Hong Kong also has academic exchanges with Pennsylvania State University, King's College London in the UK, Beijing University, and a Swiss university. There are also ongoing discussions with the University of Toronto and universities in mid-western Canada. As a Canadian, he is going to promote more academic exchanges between the University of Hong Kong and Canadian universities.

A few years ago, there was not much difficulty for a university graduate to find a job, especially for graduates from Tier 1 universities in China, but things are different now, and a university degree no longer guarantees a good job. University graduates used to account for only 1% to 2% of the population and were viewed as the elite, but now university graduates are everywhere. Some young people study hard to enrol at a well-known

institution, but once they get in, they feel lost. Professor Tsui advises young people to change their way of thinking, and to recognise that being a university graduate does not mean that getting a job is a certainty. On the other hand, he hopes to change the prejudiced thinking in society that a university degree is necessary for every job. For example, it is not reasonable that someone with an associate's degree cannot get into the civil service in Hong Kong.

What are the Vice-Chancellor's plans after he finishes his second term? Professor Tsui replies with a hearty laugh, 'I will leave that to fate!' He frankly says that he likes Canada very much. These years, he has been very busy with his work as a university president, and has not really had a chance to enjoy his life in Hong Kong. If he retires, he will choose to return to live in Canada. The chances are low that he would return to research work, since research must be focused and continuous. Having been an administrator for so many years would make it difficult for him to compete with others for a research position. However, if a research grant is available, he would not eliminate that possibility. As to whether it is plausible for him to teach at a university in Mainland China like Professor Yang Chen Ning, Professor Tsui smiles and says, 'I don't have the same clarity of mind as physicist Professor Yang, and I might make a poor teacher.'

Vice-Chancellor Tsui has a lovely family. His wife, like him, grew up in Hong Kong and worked in the Royal Bank of Canada. She accompanied him back to Hong Kong in 2002. They have two sons, with the older being a pharmacist in London, Ontario, and the younger one just awarded a PhD in sports mechanics in England.

In the 2010 Convocation Newsletter issued last winter, the Vice-Chancellor wrote: 'For the past century, the University has lived up to its promise, growing with Hong Kong and intertwined with its destiny, as it re-defines its position on the global landscape of education. The University of Hong Kong was to be for China and the World' Vice-Chancellor Professor Tsui, a graduate of the Chinese University of Hong Kong, obtained his PhD in the United States, became a Canadian citizen, and is now the Vice-Chancellor and President of the University of Hong Kong. He is an embodiment of the values of the University of Hong Kong: freedom, liberty, diversity.